

ROTTERDAM STUDY

The Rotterdam Study is a prospective cohort study that started in 1990 in Ommoord, a suburb of Rotterdam (UK) among 7983 men and women aged 55 and over. The main objective of the Rotterdam Study is to investigate the prevalence and incidence of and risk factors for chronic diseases in the elderly.

Listing of study variables & measurement of variables

Socio-economic status

Current health status:

- medical history
- current drug use (ATC-classification)
- functional disability/ Activities of Daily Living (Stanford Health Questionnaire)
- Instrumental Activities of Daily Living

Cognitive function

- Mini Mental State Examination
- Geriatric Mental State Schedule
- Stroop Test
- Verbal Fluency Test
- Letter Digit Substitution Task

Psychological Measures:

- Center of Epidemiology Depression Scale

Bio-clinical:

- indicators for Parkinson's disease
- Dual-Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (bone mineral density)
- X-rays of hands, thoraco-lumbar spine, hips and knees
- extensive ophthalmologic examination
- transcranial Doppler ultrasonography

- ultrasound
- assessment of cardiac dimensions
- diameter of the abdominal aorta
- carotid arterial wall thickness
- plaque thickness
- arterial stiffness (pulse wave velocity and common carotid artery distensibility)
- computerized ECG
- blood pressure readings (brachial artery, posterior tibial artery)
- anthropometry
- venous blood sample
- non-fasting glucose tolerance test

Lifestyle:

- nutrition
- smoking
- alcohol use
- physical activity

Family anamnesis/history

Health care utilization:

- fully automated pharmacy data
- hospital visits

Follow-up data:

- certain diseases
- mortality